

Message Text

SECRET

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 171457

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR ONLY FROM HABIB

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, RP

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE BASE NEGOTIATIONS

REF:A.STATE 169597 B. MANILA 10024

1. I HAVE DISCUSSED PHILIPPINE NEGOTIATING SITUATION
WITH SECRETARY, WHO UNDERSTANDS DIFFICULTIES POSED BY CUR-
RENT PHILIPPINE NEGOTIATING POSITION.

2. WE CONTINUE TO HOPE TO GET NEGOTIATION CONCLUDED AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND BY SEPTEMBER IF FEASIBLE. HOWEVER,
YOU SHOULD NOT FEEL UNDER PRESSURE FROM HERE TO HAVE
AGREEMENT WRAPPED UP BY END OF JULY OR EARLY AUGUST IF
THAT IS NOT IN THE CARDS.

3. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE IT POSSIBLE RPT POSSIBLE SECRETARY
WILL MAKE EAST ASIA SWING IN SECOND WEEK OF AUGUST AFTER
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SCHEDEDUL VISITS TO IRAN AND OTHER SOUTH ASIAN CAPITALS.

VISIT WOULD BE BRIEF--ONE TO TWO DAYS WITH FOLLOW-ON
STOPS. THERE WOULD NOT BE TIME NOR WOULD WE WISH TO
USE VISIT AS OCCASION FOR DETAILED NEGOTIATIONS. AT
SAME TIME, VISIT COULD BE USEFUL TO YOU TO FORCE
GOP TO CLEARLY DEFINE ITS POSITION ON MAJOR KEY ISSUES
WELL IN ADVANCE OF SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL.

4. IN ANY EVENT, WE WOULD ENVISION VISIT AS MEANS TO
PRESSURE GOP TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT MOVEMENT, NOT AS LEVER
FOR GOP TO USE ON YOU TO FORCE PACE OF NEGOTIATIONS ON
THEIR TERMS.

5. ABOVE INFORMATION IS FOR YOU ALONE -
AND POSSIBILITY SECRETARY'S VISIT IS NOT RPT NOT
TO BE CONVEYED TO GOP OR ANY OTHERS. WOULD APPRECIATE
YOUR COMMENTS SOONEST AS WELL AS YOUR VIEWS AS TO
WHETHER TIMING OF VISIT IN SECOND WEEK OF AUGUST WOULD
POST ANY PROBLEMS FOR FILIPINOS. KISSINGER

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